

Sean James Dolan Memorial Fund

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November 2002

Greetings Everyone!

Fall is one of the most beautiful times of the year. This year was no exception! Halloween's Fun and Frolic is over and the Winter Holidays are Right Around The Corner! Just a little over a month ago, the temperature was in the 80's. It's been dipping into the 20's and the woodstove has been going for a while!

Two weekends ago, we helped to start to transform our Borough with early holiday spirit by hanging the garland wreaths w/bows on the lampposts along Main Street. We've got just a few short weeks before Yardley's Annual Ole Fashioned Christmas Parade on December 14th. Helping to spread Holiday cheer is something we really look forward to each year. For the fourth year, we'll be entering a parade float. It should be Really Cool like previous years - Especially If we can get the parachute to work right ! ;-)
Perhaps you want to bring the family and enjoy it for yourself! Bring your camera & a friend !

Recently we've gotten tab collections from many of our automotive friends. A few weeks ago I stopped to see our Friend's at Jim Allen's Automotive in North Brunswick, NJ. Not only did I empty out their tab house, but our buddy Gary K. who works there (& first told Jim and his coworkers about our tab collections) had a few extra sandwich bags filled for me. Then I got a call from Bill Pelicane at Malouf Ford (www.maloufford.com) also in North Brunswick. They were able to fill up a large plastic pretzel barrel with almost 7 pounds of tabs! Last night I picked up the contents of a filled tab house box again from Jim Allen's crew. I guess they've been both busy and thirsty ! ;-)

While still on the "Automotive" theme - I finally bought another truck. My '95 Blazer had endured over 190,000 miles, 6 alternators, 5 batteries, 4 fuel pumps, 2 transmissions, 1 set of shocks, countless oil changes and a host of other things done to it. It was time to get "new wheels." In the 8-weeks it took for the order to come in, our salesman, Don Minnick at Bill Marsh Ford (www.billmarshford.com) in Newtown (Buck's County), Pa. and his friends were able to collect a whole gallon-size Ziplock bag (~3lbs.) full of tabs ! !

Last week I got to break the new truck in, traveling to Long Island for training with our friends at Modern Warrior (www.mwarrior.com). While I was there, I collected another 7 - 8 lbs. (including ~2.5 from Art alone!) that they'd been collecting for us over the past few months.

Thanks again to EVERYONE who has given us tabs - We Really Appreciate It ! ! !

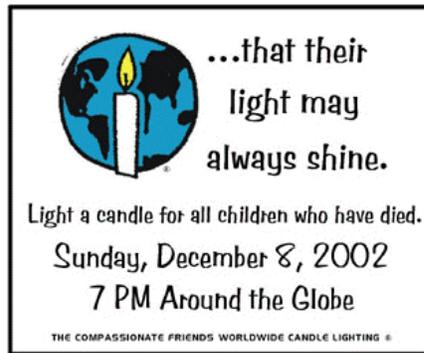
Tomorrow is World Children's Day - The Unprecedented, Worldwide Fundraising Event will take place simultaneously in all 29,000 McDonalds' restaurants in 121 countries. Funds raised from World Children's Day will benefit local Chapters of Ronald McDonald House Charities and other children's causes in communities worldwide. You can go to www.rmhc.com/news/news_recent_42602a/index.html for more info. I typically don't go to fast-food restaurants, in fact I ate more McDonalds during the weeks Sean was at CHOP, than we have in the past decade. Tomorrow however, I'll be Eating at McDonalds to support this worthy cause!!! I may even stop there for breakfast too !

By the way, this Thursday, the day after World Children's Day is the *Great American Smoke-Out* where people who smoke are asked to give it up for the day.

While your calendar is out, you may want to mark the 2nd Sunday in December as a Time of Remembrance. On Sunday December 8th we, along with other bereaved Families and Friends Throughout the World, will be participating in a Worldwide Candlelight Ceremony in Recognition for *National Children's Memorial Day*.

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At 7pm in each time zone, people will light candles outside, to remember their (and countless other) loved ones who left this life too early. It's like a 24-hour, virtual Global Wave of Light Up to the Heavens! Go to www.compassionatefriends.org for more info on the event. Although all of you can't necessarily be with us, since this e-mail distribution reaches spans throughout the world, we hope that you will light a candle at home (or wherever you are) with your family & friends, in memory of your (or someone else's) child(ren). ;-)

It's hard to believe that the Winter Holidays are quickly right around the corner - Don't forget there are fewer shopping days after Thanksgiving! We just received an invitation for this year's PRMH Annual "Light a Light, Share A Night" program. The "Share A Night" program began in 1991 as a grass roots effort throughout the Philadelphia region. Each year, the community is invited to share in the mission of the Ronald McDonald House by contributing \$10.00 or more in support of the families with seriously ill children. The \$10.00 donation represents the cost of a family for a one-night stay at the House. (Actual costs exceed \$54.00 per night.) For every \$10.00 donation received, a light is lit on the House, illuminating the building with hope, love and support. Over the years, many contributors have chosen to make their donations as a tribute to a loved one's honor or memory.

No family is ever turned away from the Ronald McDonald House due to the inability to pay. The funds raised through Share A Night help them subsidize those families who are unable to afford even the \$10.00 nightly fee. PRMH is the World's First, and serves as a home-away-from-home for families whose children are being treated at local medical facilities. Your support of their mission is greatly needed and truly appreciated.

For our fourth consecutive year, we will be donating \$10 for each of the 35 days that Sean was alive, to help sponsor 35 nights for one or more families at PRMH, in his memory. This comes directly from us and is completely separate from Sean's Memorial Fund. If you would also like to participate in this year's Light A Light campaign, you can send a check directly to PRMH at:

Light A Light, Share A Night
Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House
3921-3925 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19104

If you'd like, you can put "in memory of Sean James Dolan" on your letter. Thanks - it's not only appreciated by us, but more importantly by the folks at the Ronald McDonald House.

Thanks Again To All of You and Everyone Who Helps You, for thinking of and helping us to help the families of sick children from All Over the World at Ronald McDonald Houses All Over! You Are

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All Truly Appreciated !!! ☺☺ We hope you Have a Safe Thanksgiving and Holiday Season! Please visit Sean's Web site at www.fysd.com/Sean and 'e-sign' his Guest book!

God Bless You All & Keep Those Tabs Coming ! ☺

Chuck Dolan
SJDMF Administrator

*"A Hundred Years from Now . . .
it will not matter what my bank account was,
the sort of house I lived in, or the kind of car I drove . . .
But the World Might Be Different Because I Was Important*

In the Life of a Child . . . "



Info regarding tomorrow's *World Children's Day*

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LIGHT A LIGHT SHARE A NIGHT

November 7, 2002

Dear Friends:

For years, I have been telling you about the special families at the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House ... and for years, you've been generously helping us to help them. The Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House has served thousands of families from around this country, indeed the world, as they seek medical care here in Philadelphia. As we make greater strides in medicine, more and more children are able to survive. However, their treatment is ongoing and their need to have their families close by is as strong as ever.

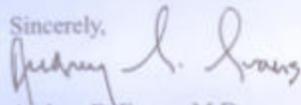
Recently, the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House provided a home away from home for the Marizcurrena family from Uruguay. Their two-year old son, Ignacio, was being treated at an area hospital and had been separated from his brother and sister for months. Your support enabled the House to provide a room, showers, hot meals, transportation, activities for their children, and a place to call home for this family, especially when they were reunited this summer. Allowing this family to be together at our House made all the difference in their child's recovery.

While we keep our costs to \$54 per night for each room, we ask that each family pay just \$15 a night. And if a family has experienced financial hardship, they can stay at the House for free...thanks to your support.

Beginning on December 4, we will show the families how much the community cares by lighting up the exterior of the House. For every \$15 donation received, another light will be added. Please consider a gift of \$15 to Share A Night this holiday season... or share more if you can. If you designate a Share A Night donation to honor loved ones, we will forward a Share A Night gift acknowledgement to each person that you include. Please forward your tax deductible donation as quickly as possible to ensure that your lights are included on December 4.

Together we can keep these special families close and make the difference in the life of a child. Please join us in helping to light the way for families in need.

Sincerely,



Audrey E. Evans, M.D.
Founder, Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House

Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House 3925 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104 (215) 387-8406

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